

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-30 are presently active in this case, Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 17-19, and 21 having been amended by way of the present Amendment.

Claims 24-26 were indicated as being allowed. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that Claim 30 is in condition for allowance, as being dependent upon allowed Claim 24.

Claims 4-8, 12-16, and 19-23 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-3, 9-11, 17, 18, and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroyanagi (U.S. Patent No. 6,545,767) in view of page 2, line 29, through page 3, line 1, of the present application. For the reasons discussed below, the Applicant requests the withdrawal of the art rejections.

The basic requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness as set forth in MPEP 2143 include (1) there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, (2) there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and (3) the reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. The Applicant submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established in the present case because the references, either taken singularly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

Claim 1 of the present application recites a method of managing a print job comprising the steps of transmitting print job information to a printer, storing the print job

information in a storage device separate from the printer, prompting a user to enter identification information at a computer separate from the printer, comparing the identification information with information stored in the storage device; and editing the print job information at the computer. Claim 9 recites a system for managing a print job comprising, among other features, means for editing the print job information at the computer. And Claim 17 recites a computer program product comprising, among other features, a fifth computer code device configured to edit the print job information at the computer. The Applicant submits that the Kuroyanagi reference does not disclose the features of Claims 1, 9, and 17.

The Kuroyanagi reference describes a print server for transmitting a printing job sent from a client connected to a network to an image output apparatus. The Kuroyanagi reference describes a print-server control section (102) that receives a printing job (103a) output from a personal computer (300) through a network interface (101), and stores it in a printing-job storage section (103). To maintain server security, the print-server control section (102) checks whether a password for the server specified in advance is included in the printing job (103a). Only when the password for the server is included, the printing job (103a) is stored in the printing-job storage section (103). Then, the print-server control section (102) sequentially outputs data to the image input and output apparatus (200) and other units according to printing destination data and output priority data included in the printing job (103a).

The Kuroyanagi reference does not disclose or even suggest a method of managing a print job comprising, among other steps, the steps of transmitting print job information to a

printer, prompting a user to enter identification information at a computer separate from the printer, and editing the print job information at the computer, as recited in Claim 1 of the present application. Nor does the Kuroyanagi reference disclose a system for managing a print job comprising, among other features, means for editing the print job information at the computer, as recited in Claim 9, nor a computer program product comprising, among other features, a fifth computer code device configured to edit the print job information at the computer, as recited in Claim 17. As noted in the Official Action, the Kuroyanagi reference does not disclose the editing of a password entry, or the print job information editing arrangement in combination with other features of the invention. The Kuroyanagi reference does not describe or suggest allowing the print job to be edited in any manner from the computer used to prompt the use for the identification information.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the obviousness rejection.

Claims 2, 3, and 27 are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for Claim 1 from which they depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of Claim 1.

Claims 10, 11, and 28 are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for Claim 9 from which they depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of Claim 9.

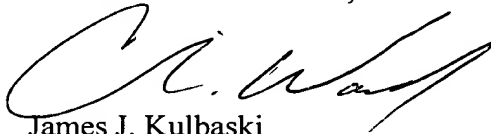
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Claims 18 and 29 are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for Claim 17 from which they depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of Claim 17.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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